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SOURCE Shqipëria [National Committee for Free Albania Organ].

DESCRIBES SOME ALBANIAN COASTAL DEFENSES

For the past 7 years, the Tirana government has been putting up fortifications in Albania. It wishes both to be ready for any outbreaks among its people and to isolate Albania from its neighbors. For example, relations with Italy are reduced to purely diplomatic ones. The steamship Otranto, sailing to Durrës or Vlora, carries the diplomatic mail, passengers, and their baggage. Another ship in the service of the Tirana government usually carries only two or three passengers on its weekly trips.

Enver Hoxha and Mehmet Shehu have tried to keep any information on their security measures from reaching the National Committee for Free Albania, but the details given below should convince them that the committee is still in close touch with its people in Albania.

We are publishing a map [appended] showing some details on the area between Sarandë and Shëndër. Furthermore, we are noting the number of guards in this zone and the liaison maintained between the guards and the other services. We could also give the names of many guards and mercenary spies in other zones.

Between Sarandë and Shëndër, a distance of 50 kilometers, there are two platoons of guards of 60 men each. One has its headquarters at Lukovë, the other at Sarandë. They guard the shore during the day, and at night they meet at Shëndelle on the line between the two zones.

At Kep i Palermos (Palermo Port) there is a special navy guard of 15 men. There is also an artillery company of 50 men with two 75/13 millimeter 1913 model? guns emplaced near the lighthouse on Kep i Leres.

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Thirteen to 15 soldiers are usually quartered in barracks on a street leading down to the bay at this port.

A patrol of eight men is on guard day and night at Gorej on the Kep i Lerës. This guard was placed here on the very day in 1948 when Kico Muka escaped from the port in a motorboat.

Some buildings at Spile are used as headquarters, the main offices being in the houses of Jorgij Bollanos and Zaho Goros. The unit of 30 men assigned here is divided into patrols which start from Spile and patrol as far as Qeparo (or from Spile to Samari i Ezhipse), where they meet the Dhërm sector guard. In the ruins of Zarfi Hali Castle, there has been put in position a broken-down machine gun of the Breda type, intended apparently for the defense of Spile.

The section headquarters is located at Dhërm, on the street leading to the center of the village. Patrols from this section guard the shore by day from Jaliskari to Shendre. The guard detail consists of about 50 men.

A squad of about 50 soldiers in Shendre is equipped with a Breda-type machine gun.

About 80 soldiers are stationed at the tip of Llogara in the last building on the road from Palasë. In this place, liaison is maintained with the patrol from Dhërm at the point where the Italian navy barracks was located. The guard detail also maintains contact with other guards from the Dukat and Vlone sectors. A mine field has been planted near the Kep i Palermos lighthouse in a channel about 10 miles long. The passage through the mined zone opens near Rrug' e Bardhë. Ships sailing coastwise from Vlone can enter freely, whereas ships from Sarandë must make a long loop to avoid danger from the mines. The opening through the field is guarded by four coast patrol boats armed only with light machine guns.

The data we have given proves that, through the heroic sacrifices of Albanians, the committee is able to collect important pieces of information which Hoxha and Shehu have tried to keep secret, especially from us. But, however much they terrorize and crush innocent people, the free world will learn what is happening in Albania. If, to trace the sources of this information, Hoxha and Shehu mistreat innocent people, they will pay dearly for every crime.

[Appended map follows.]

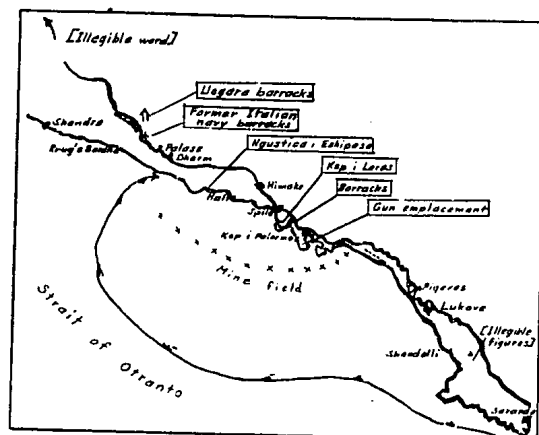
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Albanian Coastal Defenses



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